

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

4/18 & 4/19

[John 8:12](#) – Jesus makes a bold statement of being the light of the world, and those who walk in him will never have darkness but will have the light of life. In saying that, he is the light of the world; Jesus is saying that he is the one who will guide people out of the darkness. He is the one who will give them life. The religious leaders grew angry over Jesus' claim because it diminished their authority and power. They had grown accustomed to being in charge by interpreting God's word and law for the people. It also meant that Jesus knew more about God than they did. He provided the guidance that they couldn't. We understand Jesus' claim because we know the resurrected Jesus. At the same time, we understand the religious leaders because we want to have the power and authority over our lives. What does it look like to walk in Jesus' light?

Why do we want to have power and authority over our lives?

How do we share with others the Light of the world?

Sermon Notes



Our Journey for April 13 – April 19, 2026

Light is one of the foundational blocks of our lives. We use it for various reasons, from creating an atmosphere for our homes or workplaces to keeping us safe. When Jesus said that he was the Light of the world, he indicated that he is foundational for our lives. He helps us see what God is doing. He provides safety and comfort during difficult times. He shows us true and lasting peace. We need Jesus for our daily living. What happens when there is no light? Life is more difficult, but not impossible. What happens when we don't have Jesus in our lives? People miss out on what Jesus gives. They live, but it is more difficult. They have to find their own way and create their own peace. They have to make sense of the world without a framework of grace, forgiveness, hope, and all the other attributes Jesus gives. It's like walking into a basement without any lights and trying to find your way around it. It's not impossible, but it is difficult. Jesus is the light that we need. ~ Pastor Seth

A LAMP

Mon. 4/13

[Psalm 119:105](#) – When we walk in the dark, we need a light of some sort to help us navigate our way. Have you ever tried to walk through the woods at night without a light? It isn't the easiest thing to do, especially when the moon is not bright. One could easily trip and fall. Psalm 119 is a long psalm about the word of God. According to the psalmist, God's words provide direction, wisdom, guidance, and so much more. In verse 105, the psalmist says that God's word is a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his path. When we read God's word, it is like using a flashlight on a dark night, going through the woods. When we meditate on it and put it into practice, it's like turning on the bedroom light at night so we won't stub our toe on the end of the bed.

How does God's word illuminate your world?

How does God's word relate to Jesus being the light of the world?

A PILLAR OF FIRE

Tue. 4/14

[Exodus 13:20 -14:31](#) – We do a lot of things out of fear. We lock doors and windows. We avoid certain people, places, and topics of conversation. We scream and/or run when fear rises within us. The people of God are leaving their lives of slavery and traveling into the unknown. God provided a way out and led them into the wilderness. As they looked back, they saw the Egyptians coming after them and complained to God. God provided them with a cloud that would lead them by night and a pillar of fire that would lead them at night. There is this moment before they cross the Red Sea when God protects them with a cloud, which throws the Egyptians into confusion and provides the Israelites with a source of light that helps them cross safely to the other side.

When has God protected you?

When has God given you insights that you needed?

THE BRILLIANCE OF GOD

Wed. 4/15

[Ezekiel 1:1-28](#) – What do you think of when you see a lightning storm approaching? Do you think about the danger of a lightning bolt? Do you think of the power? Or the beauty? In our reading, Ezekiel shares the moment when God reveals a powerful vision to him. Ezekiel begins with a powerful windstorm approaching him. In this storm, he sees some strange creatures, which he does his best to describe. These creatures are surrounded by an intense light, which looks like glowing metal, and are surrounded by a brilliant light. Above these creatures is another figure, who sits on a gleaming throne. The upper half of the figure appeared to be glowing metal, and the lower half appeared to be fire. Ezekiel has a hard time describing the beauty that he sees, but he knows that he is in the presence of God.

Why do people have a fascination with lightning storms?

How does Ezekiel's vision help you picture God?

DARKNESS HAS NOT OVERCOME IT

Thur. 4/16

[John 1:1-5](#) – Have you ever watched the sunrise? There is this gradual light that overcomes the darkness. If you have an opportunity to watch the sunrise on Cadillac Mountain at Acadia National Park in Maine, you should do so. It is an early morning event, but it is amazing to see the beauty of the sun rising over the horizon, bringing light to the darkness. In the opening of the Gospel of John, we read about Jesus' entrance into our world. John uses the imagery of light shining in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome the light. Jesus's life brings light into our world. The way Jesus spoke brings dignity and respect to those who were cast aside. The way Jesus lives brings hope to those without hope. Nothing has overcome Jesus' life.

What does the sunrise mean to you?

How has Jesus' entrance into your life changed you?

WALK AS HE DOES

Fri. 4/17

[1 John 1:5-10](#) – Light is necessary for us to see an object. Light travels in a straight line, and when it hits an object, it reflects at different angles. Our eyes detect those reflections, and our mind forms an image of the reflected light. In 1 John 1:5-10, God is the light by which we see. There is no darkness coming from God, so that we can see everything. 1 John 1:5-10 gives a way to describe sin as darkness. We can think of it like closing our eyes and not being able to see the light being reflected. We run into things and get hurt. God provided a way for the darkness to be removed, Jesus' death and resurrection, so that we can see once again. For the darkness to be removed, we need to confess our sin. When we confess, Jesus opens our eyes and restores our sight so that we can see once again.

How often do you confess your sin?

What stops you from confessing? What helps you to confess?